GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6487
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2000
SUPREME COURT`S ORDER ON POLLUTING VEHICLES
ANANTRAO GUDHE

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether to comply with Supreme Court`s recent order Delhi Government has withdrawn thousands of public transport buses and other polluting vehicles from the road transport system;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the likely impact of the fresh move;

(c) whether such a move is likely to be taken in other metropolies of the country and if so, the likely impact thereof, metropolitan-wise; and

(d) the details of present levels of air pollution in Delhi and other metropolies - Metropolitanand action taken/proposed to deal with the problem most effectively?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)

(a)&(b) Yes,Sir. According to the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, in compliance with the directions of Supreme Court , more than eight years old diesel buses and all pre-1990 autos and taxies plying in Delhi have been taken off the road. The ambient air quality is indicating reduction in the levels of pollutants after the withdrawal of these vehicles .

(c)At present,there is no such a move by the Government.

(d) According to the Central Pollution Control Board, the levels of ambient air pollutants (annual average)measured in residential areas in metro cities including Delhi during the year 1999 are as indicated in the following table:

City	Sulphur dioxide (SO2) (g/m3)	Nitrogen dioxide (NO2) (g/m3)	Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) (g/m3)
Delhi	16.3	26.5	351
Mumbai	14.4	29.9	247
Calcutta	31.5	29.2	268
Chennai	8.2	14.0	77
Hyderabad	15.8	28.4	223
Ahmedabad	10.8	10.3	340

The steps taken to control air pollution in Delhi and other metro cities includes notification of stringent Mass Emission Standards known as India 2000 norms akin to Euro-I norms for motor vehicles manufactured from 1.4.2000 in the entire country and more stringent Mass Emission Standards known as Bharat Stage-II akin to Euro-II norms for registration of private (non-commercial) vehicles from 1.4.2000 in the National Capital Region , notificationof specification of two-stroke engine oil effective from 1.4.1999 in the entire country, supply of improved fuel quality commensurate to upgradation of automobile technology, phasing out of leaded petrol, adoption of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) as auto fuel, promotion of use of clean fuel, closure of industrial units in non-conforming areas.